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**BACKGROUND**

Using puppets to learn new vocabulary is a fun and creative way for students to connect with the new terms as they use it in their own words. By leveraging the vocabulary CODE strategy (Connect, Organize, Deep-process, Exercise), we can help “students master crucial concepts and retain new vocabulary terms” (*Core Six Essential Strategies for Achieving Excellence with the Common Core*). This strategy leverages images from Discovery Education, as well as photos of your students to help students connect with new vocabulary terms.

**EXAMPLE**

•Students will use puppet pictures to write and act out a story using new vocabulary terms. Be sure to provide students with a list of the new vocabulary words.

•Print out the following images (large size) of animals and plants on individual pieces of paper:

- Red Fox

- Arctic Fox

- Grizzly Bear

- Frog

- Blueberry Plant

- Yucca Plant

- Aspen Trees

•Print out images of your students.

•Cut out the images and glue them to popsicle sticks, making puppet pictures.

•Explain to students that they will need to write a narrative about an adventure they had using at least 4 of the plant and/or animal images and include the academic vocabulary they have learned. This activity will assess what they understand about the different components of the habitat.

•Have students act out their stories using the puppet pictures (this can be done whole group or small groups).

**Standard:**

**Digital Literacy Focus:**

\_\_\_\_\_\_Search, find and retrieve digital information

\_\_\_\_\_\_Understand and interpret digital information

\_\_\_\_\_\_Evaluate digital information and use relevant evidence to judge its quality

\_\_\_\_\_\_Communicate digital information and collaborate with peers colleagues, family and on occasion the general public

**CREATE:**

Use diverse technologies: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_